



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

SALAMAH et al

Atty. Ref.: 839-892; Confirmation No. 8170

Appl. No. 09/742,281

Group: 2834

Filed: December 22, 2000

Examiner: Cuevas, P.

For: WAKE REDUCTION STRUCTURE FOR ENHANCING CAVITY FLOW IN GENERATOR
ROTOR ENDWINDINGS

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December 11, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance characterizes Staub as disclosing a dynamoelectric machine rotor comprising, *inter alia*, "a downstream wall, having a non-planar contour for reducing the extent and strength of generated wake". Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's interpretation and characterization of Staub for the reasons of record. Indeed, although the downstream wall of Staub is provided as a stepped structure, each downstream wall portion 101 and 102 is planar. Even if the downstream wall is considered "non-planar" because of the presence of the step between wall portions 101 and 102, Staub does not disclose that this downstream wall configuration reduces the extent and strength of generated wake and the skilled artisan would not conclude from an examination of the Staub disclosure that the downstream wall of Staub performs any generated wake reducing function as alleged

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by the Examiner's statement. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the Examiner's statement is not a fair characterization of the disclosure of Staub et al.

Nevertheless, applicant does agree that the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to teach the construction recited in applicant's independent claims 1 and 9.

Respectfully submitted,

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